private sector units;

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(f) whether it is a fact that public sector companies were favoured for the pretty benefits extracted by the bureaucrats;

(g) whether it is a fact that one of the public sector companies paid for arranging the fencing of the boundary of the house of former Development Commissioner (PI) presently working in his Ministry; and

(h) what is the name of the company and how much amount was paid?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Reimbursements have been made to public sector undertakings IDPL and HAL from the Drugs Prices Equalisation Account during 1987-88 and 1988-89 in respect of 6 APA and certain other drugs.

(c) to (h) Information to the extent available would be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Increasing the price of newsprint

@1952. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the newsprint price has been increased at the rate of Rs. 800/- per ton recently by Government causing burden on the newspaper industry;

(b) whether Government have received any representation for lowering the newsprint cost; and

(c) if so, what action Government has taken to reduce the price of newsprint?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Some newsprint mills are reported to have recently increased the price of newsprint. The increase in price ranges between about Rs. 775 to Rs. 915 per MT in respect of Mysore Paper Mills (MPM) and about Rs. 770 to Rs. 970 in respect of Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited (TNPL), depending upon the size and grammage etc. of newsprint. Government exercise no control over the price of newsprint, which is governed by input costs and market conditions.

Opening of Nursing College in Kerala

1953. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are considering any proposal to start a nursing college/institute/university in Kerala; and;

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Government has no such proposal at present.

(b) Question does not arise.

Proposals for new industries in Kerala

1954. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any major private or public sector unit has applied for licences to start industry in Kerala after January, 1990;

(b) whether the Central Government have received any new proposal from the Kerala Government under their new industrial policy; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Since February, 1990, under the already existing industrial policy, 15 Industrial Licence Applications, including 4 from

@Previously Unstarred Question 1577 transferred from the 23rd May 1990.

State Government Public Sector Enterprises, for setting up industries in Kerala were received. Of these, one application has been approved and letter of intent granted as follows:—

Name of Undertaking & Location	Item of manufacture	Letter of Intent & date
M/s. Traco Cable Co. Ltd., Ernakulam	All Aluminium Alloy Conductor	343(90) dt. 10.5.90

Of the remaining 14 applications, 5 have been rejected and 9 are at various stages of processing.

No new industrial policy has been announced by the Central Government since February, 1990.

Setting up of Hydro-Electric Project in Kerala

1955. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many Hydro-Electric Projects of Kerala State were objected to by the Ministry of Environment and Forests after their clearance by his Ministry after November, 1989; and

(b) what action his Ministry are taking to get these projects implemented?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) No Hydro-electric Project of the State of Kerala have been accorded techno-economic clearance by CEA since November, 1989.

(b) Does not arise.

Hospitality enjoyed by the Members of Committees on drug issues

1956 SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 275 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th May, 1990 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee, Shankaran Committee and Tandon Committee visited certain drug companies;

(b) if so, the names of the companies and the dates of their visit to each company;

(c) what are the details of information and data collected from each company by each of these committees;

(d) whether it is also a fact that these committees enjoyed the hospitality of drug companies including lunch, dinners and costly gifts;

(e) if so, the names of drug companies and details of hospitality enjoyed by each committee;

(f) whether it is a fact that his Ministry received certain complaints about the corrupt practices adopted by certain members of these committees; and

(g) if so, what are the details of each complaint and what action has been taken on each?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) Information to the extent available would be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Oil production and exploration in Assam

1957. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what were the targets of the O.N.G.C. in the Seventh Five year Plan